

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 00045 181524Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 INR-07 /022 W

----- 028286

R 181030Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2713

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, BA

SUBJECT: NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE TRIP - APRIL-MAY 1976

REFERENCE: STATE 011116

1. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE'S BRIEF BUT HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO BAHRAIN LAST YEAR, SECOND IN TWO YEARS, FOCUSED ON RETURN OF COMMANDANT VICE ADMIRAL BAYNE TO BAHRAIN WHERE HE IS WARMLY REMEMBERED FROM HIS DAYS AS COMMANDER MIDDLE EAST FORCE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE GOB WOULD OBJECT TO A THIRD STRAIGHT NWC VISIT BUT ITS IMPACT LOCALLY WOULD BE AT BEST ANTI-CLIMACTIC AFTER LAST YEAR'S SUCCESSFUL VISIT. PROPOSED VISIT, COMING AFTER DEPCINCEUR VISIT IN JANUARY AND POSSIBLE USCINCAVEUR VISIT IN MARCH OR APRIL, AND WITH NO HIGH-LEVEL U.S. CIVILIAN VISITS ON HORIZON, WOULD TEND TO OVEREMPHASIZE MILITARY ASPECT OF U.S. INTEREST IN BAHRAIN, BUT IN CANDOR WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS AN OVER-RIDING CONSIDERATION. BASIC PROBLEM IS THAT HANDLING A GROUP SUCH AS THIS DOES BURDEN GOB RESOURCES, BOTH IN TERMS OF SCARCITY OF ACCOMMODATIONS AND KEY MINISTERS' SCHEDULES. HENCE, OUR MAJOR CONCERN IS THAT NWC NOT WEAR OUT WHAT HAS BEEN A QUITE SINCERE WELCOME HERE.

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PAGE 02 MANAMA 00045 181524Z

2. IF NWC GROUP FEELS STRONG URGE TO VISIT BAHRAIN, EMBASSY
WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME VISIT BUT SUGGESTS TWO DAYS HERE WOULD
BE PREFERABLE TO FOUR.
TWINAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, MILITARY SCHOOLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANAMA00045
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760019-0448
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760146/aaaabojz.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 76 STATE 11116
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE TRIP - APRIL-MAY 1976
TAGS: MILI, BA, US, NWC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006